

HOUSE BILL NO. 112

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES RUFFRIDGE, Mears, Fields, Wright, Josephson

Introduced: 3/13/23

Referred: Health and Social Services, Labor and Commerce, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the Board of Pharmacy; relating to the practice of pharmacy;**
2 **relating to pharmacies; relating to prescription drug manufacturers; relating to**
3 **prescriptions for epinephrine; relating to the administration of epinephrine; and**
4 **providing for an effective date."**

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 * **Section 1.** AS 08.80.010(a) is amended to read:

7 (a) There is created the Board of Pharmacy, composed of seven members, five
8 of whom shall be pharmacists licensed in the state who have been actively engaged in
9 the practice of pharmacy in the state for a period of three years immediately preceding
10 their appointment. **One shall be a pharmacy technician licensed in the state for a**
11 **period of two years immediately preceding appointment. One** [TWO] shall be **a**
12 **person** [PERSONS] with no direct financial interest in the health care industry.
13 Whenever possible, the board shall include at least one member from each judicial
14 district.

1 * **Sec. 2.** AS 08.80.030(b) is amended to read:

2 (b) In order to fulfill its responsibilities, the board has the powers necessary
3 for implementation and enforcement of this chapter, including the power to

4 (1) elect a president and secretary from its membership and adopt rules
5 for the conduct of its business;

6 (2) license by examination or by license transfer the applicants who are
7 qualified to engage in the practice of pharmacy;

8 (3) assist the department in inspections and investigations for
9 violations of this chapter, or of any other state or federal statute relating to the practice
10 of pharmacy;

11 (4) adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

12 (5) establish and enforce compliance with professional standards and
13 rules of conduct for pharmacists engaged in the practice of pharmacy;

14 (6) determine standards for recognition and approval of degree
15 programs of schools and colleges of pharmacy whose graduates shall be eligible for
16 licensure in this state, including the specification and enforcement of requirements for
17 practical training, including internships;

18 (7) establish for pharmacists and pharmacies minimum specifications
19 for the physical facilities, technical equipment, personnel, and procedures for the
20 storage, compounding, and dispensing of drugs or related devices, and for the
21 monitoring of drug therapy, including independent monitoring of drug therapy;

22 (8) enforce the provisions of this chapter relating to the conduct or
23 competence of pharmacists practicing in the state, and the suspension, revocation, or
24 restriction of licenses to engage in the practice of pharmacy;

25 (9) license and regulate the training, qualifications, and employment of
26 pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians;

27 (10) **license and regulate the qualifications of entities and**
28 **individuals** [ISSUE LICENSES TO PERSONS] engaged in the manufacture **or**
29 [AND] distribution of drugs and related devices;

30 (11) establish and maintain a controlled substance prescription
31 database as provided in AS 17.30.200;

1 (12) establish standards for the independent prescribing and
 2 administration of vaccines and related emergency medications under AS 08.80.168,
 3 including the completion of an immunization training program approved by the board
 4 **and an epinephrine auto-injector training program under AS 17.22.020(b);**

5 (13) establish standards for the independent prescribing and dispensing
 6 by a pharmacist of an opioid overdose drug under AS 17.20.085, including the
 7 completion of an opioid overdose training program approved by the board;

8 (14) require that a licensed pharmacist **who dispenses a schedule II,**
 9 **III, or IV controlled substance under federal law to a person in the state** register
 10 with the controlled substance prescription database under AS 17.30.200(n);

11 (15) establish the qualifications and duties of the executive
 12 administrator and delegate authority to the executive administrator that is necessary to
 13 conduct board business;

14 (16) license and inspect the facilities of **pharmacies, manufacturers,**
 15 wholesale drug distributors, third-party logistics providers, and outsourcing facilities
 16 located outside the state under AS 08.80.159;

17 **(17) license Internet-based pharmacies providing services to**
 18 **residents in the state;**

19 **(18) adopt regulations pertaining to retired pharmacist status.**

20 * **Sec. 3.** AS 08.80.145 is amended to read:

21 **Sec. 08.80.145. Reciprocity; license transfer.** If another jurisdiction allows
 22 licensure in that jurisdiction of a pharmacist licensed in this state under conditions
 23 similar to those in this section, the board may license as a pharmacist in this state a
 24 person licensed as a pharmacist in the other jurisdiction if the person

25 (1) submits a written application to the board on a form required by the
 26 board;

27 (2) is at least 18 years of age;

28 (3) [IS OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER;

29 (4)] possesses at the time of the request for licensure as a pharmacist in
 30 this state the qualifications necessary to be eligible for licensure in this state;

31 **(4) [(5)]** has engaged in the practice of pharmacy for at least one year

1 [OR HAS MET THE INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS OF THIS STATE WITHIN
2 THE ONE-YEAR PERIOD] immediately before applying for a license under this
3 section;

4 (5) [(6)] presents proof satisfactory to the board that the person is
5 currently licensed as a pharmacist in the other jurisdiction and does not currently have
6 a pharmacist license suspended, revoked, or otherwise restricted except for failure to
7 apply for renewal or failure to obtain the required continuing education credits;

8 (6) [(7)] has passed an examination approved by the board that tests
9 the person's knowledge of Alaska laws relating to pharmacies and pharmacists and the
10 regulations adopted under those laws; and

11 (7) [(8)] pays all required fees.

12 * **Sec. 4.** AS 08.80.157(k) is amended to read:

13 (k) This section applies to **pharmacies, manufacturers,** wholesale drug
14 distributors, third-party logistics providers, and outsourcing facilities located outside
15 the state under AS 08.80.159.

16 * **Sec. 5.** AS 08.80.159(a) is amended to read:

17 (a) Before shipping, mailing, **distributing,** or delivering **a** prescription **drug**
18 [DRUGS] to a **person** [LICENSEE] in the state or advertising in the state, a
19 **pharmacy, manufacturer,** wholesale drug distributor, third-party logistics provider,
20 or an outsourcing facility that is located outside the state shall

21 (1) obtain a license under AS 08.80.157;

22 (2) appoint an agent on whom process can be served in the state; and

23 (3) authorize inspection of the facility by a designee of the board under
24 (c) of this section.

25 * **Sec. 6.** AS 08.80.159(c) is amended to read:

26 (c) Upon application by a **pharmacy, manufacturer,** wholesale drug
27 distributor, third-party logistics provider, or an outsourcing facility for a license under
28 this section, the board may

29 (1) require an inspection of the applicant's facility located outside the
30 state; and

31 (2) approve a designee to conduct the inspection.

1 * **Sec. 7.** AS 08.80.160 is amended to read:

2 **Sec. 08.80.160. Fees.** The Department of Commerce, Community, and
3 Economic Development shall set fees under AS 08.01.065 for the following:

- 4 (1) examination;
5 (2) reexamination;
6 (3) investigation for licensing by license transfer;
7 (4) pharmacist license;
8 (5) temporary license;
9 (6) pharmacy technician license;
10 (7) pharmacy intern license;
11 (8) emergency permit;
12 (9) license amendment or replacement;
13 (10) [REGISTRATION OR] licensure of a facility classified under
14 AS 08.80.157(b).

15 * **Sec. 8.** AS 08.80.168 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

16 (e) A pharmacist may independently administer epinephrine to a patient or
17 prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors to a person who has completed a training program
18 approved by the board under AS 17.22.020(b).

19 * **Sec. 9.** AS 08.80.270(a) is amended to read:

20 (a) The board shall employ an executive administrator to carry out the duties
21 established under (b) of this section. The executive administrator is the principal
22 executive officer of the board. The executive administrator is in the partially exempt
23 service under AS 39.25.120 and is entitled to receive a monthly salary equal to a step
24 in range 23 on the salary schedule set out in AS 39.27.011(a). **If the executive**
25 **administrator has a pharmacist license, the executive administrator is entitled to**
26 **a monthly salary based on the salary classification for pharmacists.**

27 * **Sec. 10.** AS 08.80.420(a) is amended to read:

28 (a) A person may not use or exhibit the title "pharmacist," "assistant
29 pharmacist," or "druggist," or the descriptive term "pharmacy," "drug store," "drug
30 sundries," **"apothecary,"** or other similar title or term containing the word "drug," in
31 any business premises [,] or in an advertisement through the media of press [,] or

1 publication, or by radio or television, unless the business has a licensed pharmacist in
2 regular and continuous employment.

3 * **Sec. 11.** AS 12.62.400(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) To obtain a national criminal history record check for determining a
5 person's qualifications for a license, permit, registration, employment, or position, a
6 person shall submit the person's fingerprints to the department with the fee established
7 by AS 12.62.160. The department may submit the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau
8 of Investigation to obtain a national criminal history record check of the person for the
9 purpose of evaluating a person's qualifications for

10 (1) a license or conditional contractor's permit to manufacture, sell,
11 offer for sale, possess for sale or barter, traffic in, or barter an alcoholic beverage
12 under AS 04.11;

13 (2) licensure as a mortgage lender, a mortgage broker, or a mortgage
14 loan originator under AS 06.60;

15 (3) admission to the Alaska Bar Association under AS 08.08;

16 (4) licensure as a collection agency operator under AS 08.24;

17 (5) a certificate of fitness to handle explosives under AS 08.52;

18 (6) licensure as a massage therapist under AS 08.61;

19 (7) licensure to practice nursing or certification as a nurse aide under
20 AS 08.68;

21 (8) certification as a real estate appraiser under AS 08.87;

22 (9) a position involving supervisory or disciplinary power over a minor
23 or dependent adult for which criminal justice information may be released under
24 AS 12.62.160(b)(9);

25 (10) a teacher certificate under AS 14.20;

26 (11) a registration or license to operate a marijuana establishment
27 under AS 17.38;

28 (12) admittance to a police training program under AS 18.65.230 or for
29 certification as a police officer under AS 18.65.240 if that person's prospective
30 employer does not have access to a criminal justice information system;

31 (13) licensure as a security guard under AS 18.65.400 - 18.65.490;

- 1 (14) a concealed handgun permit under AS 18.65.700 - 18.65.790;
- 2 (15) licensure as an insurance producer, managing general agent,
3 reinsurance intermediary broker, reinsurance intermediary manager, surplus lines
4 broker, or independent adjuster under AS 21.27;
- 5 (16) serving and executing process issued by a court by a person
6 designated under AS 22.20.130;
- 7 (17) a school bus driver license under AS 28.15.046;
- 8 (18) licensure as an operator or an instructor for a commercial driver
9 training school under AS 28.17;
- 10 (19) registration as a broker-dealer, agent, investment adviser
11 representative, or investment adviser under AS 45.56.300 - 45.56.350;
- 12 (20) licensure, license renewal, certification, certification renewal, or
13 payment from the Department of Health of an individual and an entity subject to the
14 requirements for a criminal history check under AS 47.05.310, including
- 15 (A) a public home care provider described in AS 47.05.017;
- 16 (B) a provider of home and community-based waiver services
17 financed under AS 47.07.030(c);
- 18 (C) a case manager to coordinate community mental health
19 services under AS 47.30.530;
- 20 (D) an entity listed in AS 47.32.010(b) and (c), including an
21 owner, officer, director, member, partner, employee, volunteer, or contractor of
22 an entity; or
- 23 (E) an individual or entity not described in (A) - (D) of this
24 paragraph that is required by statute or regulation to be licensed or certified by
25 the Department of Health or that is eligible to receive payments, in whole or in
26 part, from the Department of Health to provide for the health, safety, and
27 welfare of persons who are served by the programs administered by the
28 Department of Health;
- 29 (21) employment as a village public safety officer under AS 18.65.672
30 or certification as a village public safety officer under AS 18.65.682;
- 31 (22) licensure, license renewal, certification, or certification renewal

1 by the Department of Family and Community Services of an individual or entity, or
 2 payment from the Department of Family and Community Services to an individual or
 3 entity, subject to the requirements for a criminal history check under AS 47.05.310 for
 4 a foster home, child placement agency, and runaway shelter listed in AS 47.32.010(c),
 5 including an owner, officer, director, member, partner, employee, volunteer, or
 6 contractor of an entity;

7 **(23) licensure as a pharmacist or pharmacy technician under**
 8 **AS 08.80.**

9 * **Sec. 12.** AS 17.22.010 is amended to read:

10 **Sec. 17.22.010. Prescription, purchase, and administration of epinephrine**
 11 **by a trained individual.** An individual who is 18 years of age or older may obtain a
 12 prescription for, purchase, and, in an emergency situation, administer epinephrine **to**
 13 **another person** using

14 [(1)] an auto-injector, if the individual has successfully completed a
 15 training program approved by the **board** [DEPARTMENT] under as 17.22.020(b) [
 16 OR

17 (2) AN AMPULE, IF THE INDIVIDUAL HAS SUCCESSFULLY
 18 COMPLETED A TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT
 19 UNDER AS 17.22.020(c)].

20 * **Sec. 13.** AS 17.22.020(a) is amended to read:

21 (a) The **board** [DEPARTMENT] shall adopt standards for the approval of **a**
 22 training **program** [PROGRAMS] for the use of

23 [(1)] epinephrine auto-injectors [; AND

24 (2) EPINEPHRINE AMPULES].

25 * **Sec. 14.** AS 17.22.020(b) is amended to read:

26 (b) The **board** [DEPARTMENT] shall approve an auto-injector training
 27 program that meets standards adopted under **(a)** [(a)(1)] of this section. The standards
 28 must require an epinephrine auto-injector program to provide training in

29 (1) techniques on how to recognize symptoms of severe asthmatic or
 30 allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis;

31 (2) standards and procedures for the storage of epinephrine auto-

1 injectors and administration of epinephrine using auto-injectors; and

2 (3) emergency follow-up procedures.

3 * **Sec. 15.** AS 17.22.030 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 17.22.030. Applicability.** This chapter does not apply to a person who is
5 authorized under another law to administer epinephrine [OR TO A PERSON WHO IS
6 PRESCRIBED EPINEPHRINE FOR PERSONAL USE].

7 * **Sec. 16.** AS 17.22.040 is amended to read:

8 **Sec. 17.22.040. Liability of certified individual.** A claim for relief may not be
9 brought against an individual who has successfully completed an auto-injector [A]
10 training program approved by the board [DEPARTMENT] under AS 17.22.020 for an
11 act or omission relating to the administration of epinephrine to another individual in an
12 emergency situation if the individual who completed the training program acted in
13 good faith under the authority granted by this chapter.

14 * **Sec. 17.** AS 17.22.090 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

15 (3) "board" means the Board of Pharmacy.

16 * **Sec. 18.** AS 08.80.110(2), 08.80.158; AS 17.22.020(c), and 17.22.090(1) are repealed.

17 * **Sec. 19.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
18 read:

19 TRANSITION: EFFECT ON CURRENT REGISTERED PHARMACIES. On and
20 after the effective date of sec. 18 of this Act, a pharmacy registered under AS 08.80.158 on
21 the effective date of sec. 18 of this Act may continue to ship, mail, or deliver prescription
22 drugs to consumers in the state under the registration until the registration expires normally
23 under AS 08.80.

24 * **Sec. 20.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
25 read:

26 TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Board of Pharmacy and the Department of
27 Commerce, Community, and Economic Development may adopt regulations necessary to
28 implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect under AS 44.62
29 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the relevant provision of
30 this Act implemented by the regulation.

31 * **Sec. 21.** Section 20 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

1 * **Sec. 22.** Except as provided in sec. 21 of this Act, this Act takes effect November 26,
2 2023.